

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NATO 05735 01 OF 02 220210Z  
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 SS-14 INR-05 PM-03  
L-01 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 TRSE-00 H-01 PRS-01  
IO-06 /057 W  
-----035531 220223Z /70

R 210940Z JUN 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4330  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 05735

LIMDIS

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

GENEVA FOR SEABED DEL - SLOSS

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM, NATO  
SUBJECT: MBFR: CONVERSATION WITH FRENCH DELEGATION  
OFFICER

1. ON THE FRINGES OF A SOCIAL OCCASION ON JUNE 15, FRENCH  
DELEGATION OFFICER GUELLUY RAISED MBFR WITH MISSION OFFI-  
CER. GUELLUY, FIRST SECRETARY IN THE FRENCH DELEGATION,  
HAS BEEN FRENCH REP AT SPC MEETINGS ON MBFR FOR THE PAST  
TWO AND ONE HALF YEARS. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE MAIN POINTS  
HE MADE DURING THE CONVERSATION, ALTHOUGH NOT IN THE ORDER  
IN WHICH THEY AROSE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 05735 01 OF 02 220210Z

2. FRANCE AND THE COMMON CEILING: GUELLUY RAISED THE  
ISSUE OF FRANCE'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMMON CEILING. HE  
NOTED THAT FRANCE HAD MADE CLEAR TO THE OTHER ALLIES LAST  
YEAR ITS POSITION THAT FRENCH FORCES IN THE FRG ARE NOT  
INCLUDED UNDER THE COMMON CEILING IN ANY WAY. ALTHOUGH THE  
OTHER ALLIES HAVE CHOSEN NOT TO WORK OUT A SOLUTION THUS

FAR, THE FRENCH EXPECT THAT THEIR VIEW WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN ADVANCE OF ANY AGREEMENT. (COMMENT: WE MADE NO REPLY TO THIS REFERENCE BY GUELLUY TO THE DECEMBER 1976 COMPROMISE ON THIS ISSUE. THE IMPLICATION WE DRAW FROM GUELLUY'S REMARKS IS THAT FRANCE MAINTAINS ITS POSITION, BUT IT IS UNLIKELY TO PRESS THE OTHER ALLIES TO FIND A SOLUTION IN NATO IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. END COMMENT.)

3. ALLIANCE CONSULTATIONS ON MBFR: IN NOTING THAT FRANCE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MBFR, GUELLUY SAID THAT IT IS A MISNOMER TO REFER TO "SPC DECISIONS" OR "NAC GUIDANCE" ON MBFR. IT WOULD BE MORE CORRECT TO REFER TO "DECISIONS OF THOSE MEMBERS OF SPC WHOSE COUNTRIES ARE MBFR PARTICIPANTS" OR "GUIDANCE FROM THOSE MEMBERS OF THE NAC WHOSE COUNTRIES ARE MBFR PARTICIPANTS." HE ALSO NOTED THAT HIS ATTENDANCE AT SPC MEETINGS, FROM A STRICTLY LOGICAL STANDPOINT, IS SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT WITH THE FRENCH POSITION THAT FRANCE HAS NO RELATIONSHIP TO MBFR. HE NOTED THAT HE IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO INTERVENE IN SPC DEBATE AS SELDOM AS POSSIBLE, AND ONLY WHEN FRANCE'S INTERESTS ARE DIRECTLY INVOLVED. (COMMENT: GUELLUY DID NOT IMPLY THAT FRANCE IS THINKING OF ACTUALLY REQUESTING THAT MBFR DECISIONS AT NATO NO LONGER BE TERMED DECISIONS OF THE SPC OR NAC. HIS REMARKS INDICATE SOME UNEASINESS ABOUT THE DEGREE OF INVOLVEMENT IN MBFR IMPLIED BY FRENCH ATTENDANCE AT SPC AND NAC MEETINGS ON MBFR. END COMMENT.)

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 05735 01 OF 02 220210Z

4. EC-9 AND BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH EUROPEAN ALLIES: GUELLUY NOTED THAT THE EUROPEAN ALLIES DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE FULLY ADJUSTED THEMSELVES TO THE FACT THAT FRANCE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MBFR, AND THEY PERIODICALLY ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE FRANCE IN POLICY DISCUSSIONS ON MBFR, EITHER IN EC-9 COUNCILS OR BILATERALLY. FRANCE, OF COURSE, DOES NOT ACCOMMODATE SUCH EFFORTS AND DOES NOT PERMIT ITSELF TO BE DRAWN INTO SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

5. DATA DISCUSSION WITH THE EAST: GUELLUY PERSONALLY WAS PESSIMISTIC THAT THE WESTERN PARTICIPANTS WOULD GET ANYWHERE IN THEIR DATA DISCUSSION WITH THE EAST. IN PARTICULAR, THE EASTERN TABLING OF DATA IN MBFR WAS SOMETHING NEW FOR THE EAST, AND ONE COULD NOT EXPECT THEM TO CHANGE THEIR FIGURES. HOWEVER, HE PERSONALLY CONSIDERED "ILLOGICAL" THE FRG POSITION THAT THE DATA DISCUSSION COULD BE PURSUED FURTHER WITHOUT NATIONAL TOTALS. (COMMENT: IF THE FRENCH HAVE ANY OFFICIAL MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE USE OF NATIONAL DATA IN MBFR BY WESTERN PARTICIPANTS, THIS WAS NOT APPARENT FROM OUR CONVERSATION WITH GUELLUY. END COMMENT.)

6. MBFR AND THE FRENCH LEFT: GUELLUY DID NOT ASSUME THAT THE FRENCH SOCIALISTS WOULD WIN THE NEXT PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, BUT IF THEY DID, AND BROUGHT FRANCE INTO MBFR, IT WOULD NOT MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR THE OTHER ALLIES. A GOVERNMENT OF THE LEFT MIGHT WISH TO RE-EXAMINE THE WHOLE ALLIED POSITION AND TO SEEK A NUMBER OF CHANGES IN IT. HE DID NOT SPECULATE WHAT THESE CHANGES MIGHT BE.

7. FRENCH OFFICIALDOM: GUELLUY SAID THAT THE FRENCH DCM

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SECRET

PAGE 01 NATO 05735 02 OF 02 211008Z

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 NATO 05735

LIMDIS

AT NATO (DE LA FERRIERE) HAD BEEN NAMED TO BE DIRECTOR OF PACTS AND DISARMAMENT IN THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY, A POST HE WILL TAKE UP THIS SUMMER. HE NOTED THAT THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT FIVE PEOPLE WHO FOLLOW MBFR TO ANY EXTENT IN PARIS, ALL OF THEM PART-TIME. STREATOR

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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